

HENRY AND MARY PIERCE McMULLIN



Henry McMullin was the only son of Archibald and Sarah Lufkin McMullin. He was born January 10, 1816, at Vinal Haven, Knox, Maine, and died May 3, 1886, in Heber City. Mary Pierce McMullin was the daughter of Josiah and Susan Trundy Pierce and was born October 31, 1842, at Vinal Haven. They owned and lived in their own home, which made them quite independent. Josiah passed away October 31, 1895, in Heber City.

While growing to manhood, Henry mastered the carpenter and shipbuilding trade, and at the time of his marriage had very good employment.

Four sons were born to this couple while they lived in Maine. They were: Calvin, who died in infancy; Albert, Henry, and Alphonzo.

About 1845, the Mormon missionaries under the leadership of Elder Wilford Woodruff, found these good people and were diligent in preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ to them. They were successful in converting Henry, Mary, Josiah, Mary's father (whose wife had died), and his son Edwin, and they all joined the Church, with the understanding they would stay in Maine and remain good Latter-day Saints. They would never leave all that was dear to them and go to a strange land.

Soon the spirit of gathering came upon them and they felt they must go to Zion and live with the saints. Every effort was put forth to make this journey possible. Mary said that nothing could hold her back,

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she would have walked every step of the way. So in 1855 this little family group of seven loaded their household furniture and necessities on their wagons and left Maine, starting for Zion thousands of miles away. They traveled with an independent company.

They passed through the trials of travel in those early days, and in the same year reached the valley of the Great Salt Lake. Their hearts were filled with prayer and thanksgiving for their safe arrival.

They were in Zion now, willing to do their part in pioneering and helping to beautify the valleys of the mountains.

By advice of the leaders, their oxen were turned in the big field for grazing, but to their great disappointment they never saw them again.

Willard McMullin, half-brother of Henry, helped them to move to Heber, where they lived until 1858. While there, Sarah Jane and Edwin were born, but Edwin died and was buried there.

From 1858 to 1861 they lived in Provo. Here Susan was born, but died. Then on they moved to the South Fork of Provo Canyon, where Henry operated a sawmill for Shedric Holdway. They had heard of a place further up the canyon, so decided they must move on. So in 1861 they landed in Provo Valley, now known as beautiful Heber City, and here they made their permanent home, and it was here three sons and a daughter were married, and all reared large families.

Henry set up a sawmill in Daniels Canyon, which they operated for some time. Then he started building houses and barns, some of which still stand. Instead of using nails, he used mortice and wooden pegs, as in ship building. He was the first coffin maker in Heber. He planed the boards by hand and did his own painting. Much of this work was free of charge. His wife, Mary, furnished the material and trimmed the coffins. Many who were in poor circumstances and could not afford to pay received the same consideration for their loved ones as those who could pay.

They located on the southeast corner of First North and Main Street, where the Ashton store now stands. Three homes were built there. First a two-roomed house, then a nice convenient shingle-roofed house, and last a fine big frame-and-brick house,

which was the first hotel in Heber City. It was known as the "Heber House" or "The McMullin House."

Henry was the first postmaster, and the post office was in his home. He was a faithful worker in the Church, a member of the first High Council, a good neighbor, a kind and loving husband and father. Henry passed away May 3, 1886, at Heber City.

After he died, Mary kept on in the hotel business, giving employment to many girls and boys and many homeless and unfortunate persons. One boy, whose name was Humbert Pressett, she reared to manhood.

Mary and her father belonged to the first choir. She was second counselor in the first Relief Society in Heber for five years.

She corded, spun and wove cloth; cut, fit and made clothes, not only for her own, but for many other people. Kindness, modesty and understanding were major traits in her character.

Henry and Mary were true Latter-day Saints, and through all their trials they honored the principles for which they left their home and loved ones.

Mary passed away October 31, 1895, at Heber City, Utah.

Their children were: Calvin, Susan, Sarah Jane, Edwin, Albert, Henry Lufkin and Alphonzo.

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Nearly stayed over nite at Billy Ferguson's when he was killed by snowslide





Henry Lufkin McMullin was born September 4, 1852, at Rockport, Maine, a little shipbuilding town on the coast, son of Henry and Mary Pierce McMullin. He was the fourth child in a family of six, having three brothers and two sisters. The family came to Utah with an independent company, arriving in Salt Lake Valley in the fall of 1855. Their first home was in Weber, then Provo, and then to what is now known as Vivian Park, in Provo Canyon. In 1861 they moved to Heber City.

On December 6, 1862, Henry married Janet Murdoch in the Endowment House in Salt Lake City. She was the daughter of John M. and Ann Steel Murdoch and was born December 20, 1865. There were three other little girls in the family when they arrived in Heber, and a fifth one arrived by the time they were located in their first home, a dugout, in the old fort.

Henry L. and Janet had seven children: Jane, Henry Pierce, John Edwin, Gladys (Mrs. Archie L. Davis), Maybell (Mrs. Henry Moulton), Annie (Mrs. J. Sylvan

Rasband), and Thomas Heber. This young couple took part in all the activities incident to pioneering a new community and were privileged to live together to celebrate their golden wedding. When their youngest child was a year old, Henry was called to fill a mission to the Northern States. When released, he made a trip to his native state of Maine, where he enjoyed visiting and preaching the gospel to his many relatives. In 1897 he was called on a six months' mission, to labor in Wasatch and Sanpete Counties. He was one of the aids on the first Stake Sunday School Board; was a member of the Stake High Council 25 years; also a counselor to Bishop Joseph A. Rasband. He was always an energetic teacher. Henry was a farmer. He also did freighting and canyon work.

Janet held positions at different times in all the auxiliary organizations. For five years she was Stake Primary President, and was Heber Second Ward Primary President when the ward was organized. She served in the Stake MIA and ward Relief Society. For 92 years she lived and loved this valley and its people. Aunt Net, as she was called by all, died June 12, 1948. Henry died December 20, 1932. —

Handwritten notes:
Pioneer
Provo
Dugout Fort
of Salt Lake
Pioneer
Freighting

